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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 05827

DEPT ALSO FOR S/LPD -- JOHN SCAFE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, SHUM, PINS, ES

SUBJECT: SENATOR KENNEDY'S FORUM ON FMLN ABUSES

1. WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL EXCHANGES OF TELEPHONE CALLS WITH SENATOR KENNEDY'S OFFICE, PRINCIPALLY WITH GREG CRAIG OF HIS STAFF, CONCERNING SALVADORAN PARTICIPATION IN THE PANEL DISCUSSION ON FMLN ABUSES. AS PARTICIPANTS, WE HAVE SELECTED CRISTOBAL ALEMAN, LABOR/CAMPESINO REP ON THE GOES HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, AND FATHER ROBERTO TORRUELLA, EDITOR OF THE ARCHDIOCESAN WEEKLY "ORIENTACION." BOTH ARE CREDIBLE, INFORMED SPOKESMEN CAPABLE OF PRESENTING AN ARTICULATE POINT OF VIEW. FATHER TORRUELLA IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF MAKING HIMSELF AVAILABLE TO S/LPD FOR REQUESTED INTERVIEW WITH IRISH JOURNALISTS MORNING OF MAY 25. BOTH GENTLEMEN HAVE BEEN TICKETED BY SENATOR KENNEDY'S OFFICE AND EXPECT TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON THURSDAY, MAY 24.

2. FLY IN THE OINTMENT AS OF MID-MORNING MAY 23 IS THAT FATHER TORRUELLA HAS YET TO OBTAIN OFFICIAL APPROVAL FOR HIS TRAVEL FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE FOR PURPOSES OF APPEARING BEFORE KENNEDY PANEL OR FOR INTERVIEW BY IRISH JOURNALISTS, ALTHOUGH HE HIMSELF HAS AGREED TO PARTICIPATE WE ARE SEEKING CONFIRMATION URGENTLY.

BLEAKLEY
 END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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